

God's Plan for the Future

Study Sheet

(Content herein based on the work of David Jeremiah, *The Book of Signs*; and from personal study notes)

The Rapture

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. (14) For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. (15) For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. (16) For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. (17) Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. (18) Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Rapture _____:

The event in which all who have put their trust in Jesus Christ will be suddenly caught up from the earth and taken into heaven by Him. It is set to occur at an unspecified, imminent time in the future.

The Rapture _____:

Five important truths about the Rapture...

1. The Rapture is a _____ event – without _____
Imminent = "to hang over one's head, ready to overtake; be close at hand."

An event that can occur *at any time and at all times and without any warning.*

1 Thessalonians 5:1-2 – *Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. (2) For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.*
 Matthew 24:36, 44 – *But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only ... (44) Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.*

1 Corinthians 15:52 – *...In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye...*

2. The Rapture is a _____ event – without _____

John 14:1-3 – *Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. (2) In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? (3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.*

1 Corinthians 15:1, 23, 58 – *Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand ... (23) But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ ... (58) Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

3. The Rapture is a _____ event – without _____

(16) *For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God...*

1 Corinthians 2:9 – *But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him."*

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4. The Rapture is a _____ event – without _____

The _____ – personal and physical

(16) For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God...

Acts 1:10-11 – And while they were gazing into heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, (11) and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven."

The _____ – organized and orderly

(16) ...And the dead in Christ will rise first.

The _____ – changed and complete

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 – Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

(52) in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. ...For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

Romans 8:23 – ...We ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Philippians 3:20-21 – ...our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, (21) who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.

The _____ – real and relevant

(17) Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air...

Six raptures described in the Bible.

_____ (Gen 5:22-24; Heb 11:5) _____ (2Ki 2:11)

_____ (2Cor 12:2-4) _____ (Ac 1:10-11)

_____ of the Church (1Thes 4:13-18)

_____ (Rev 11:12)

The _____ – absolutely and always

(17) ...and so we will always be with the Lord.

5. The Rapture is a _____ event – without _____

(18) Therefore encourage one another with these words.